

# VALLEY STAR

The independent student newspaper of Valley College

FOLLOW US ON:



## OPINION

PAGE 3

THERE IS MORE SECURITY  
OPTIONS ARRIVING IN THE  
FUTURE BUT WHAT ABOUT

## VALLEY LIFE

PAGE 4

MAD BULL'S TAVERN IS MORE  
THAN JUST ANOTHER LOCAL  
TAVERN.

## SPRING AWAKENING

The Valley Star  
covers the latest  
performance at the  
Horseshoe Theater

## GALLERY PAGE 6



www.lavalleystar.com

November 16, 2011

Vol. 75, Issue 7

## LACCD NOTFIES TURNER

The LACCD sends a letter to  
Turner Construction, notifying  
the companies intention to end  
their contract.

JOSHUA P. SPENCE  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In an effort to reform the \$6 billion Los Angeles Community College District Building Program, district Chancellor Daniel LaVista has sent a letter to Turner Construction Company providing an outline for the district's intention to terminate their contract with the Building Program.

Turner Construction is currently serving as the college program manager as well as supervising all Building Program construction at West Los Angeles College.

The letter to Turner Construction states that the company had permitted contractors to perform work at West Los Angeles College without submitting written bids, written contracts, payment or performance bonds, enrolling in the district's OCIP insurance program and/or providing certified payroll records or other proof of compliance with prevailing wage laws.

"By informing Turner of our intent to terminate its college program management contract, we are making it clear that no waste or mismanagement in our Building Program will be tolerated," said LaVista. "If anyone thought that the letters to FTR and Gateway were our only dramatic actions to improve accountability, they were mistaken."

The Valley Star could not reach Turner Construction for comment after several attempts.

This is the third letter that LACCD has sent in the past month. Construction companies FTR International Inc. and Gateway Science and Engineering Inc. have also received similar letters from the district, sent Oct. 17.

"This board is aggressively rooting out waste and mismanagement in our Building Program," said Miguel Santiago, president of the LACCD Board of Trustees. "We will not tolerate shoddy work or underperforming firms at LACCD. Today's actions are another step in our efforts to reform the building program. We are committed to taking whatever steps are necessary to protect the taxpayers of Los Angeles, including terminating multimillion-dollar contracts."

Valley College President Sue Carleo stated, "The district Building Program oversight includes clear performance expectation for all those with whom we contract. When the expectations are not met, it is time to take a closer look and make any necessary changes. I support this process and anticipate the proper result for all parties."

When asked about LACCD's latest action, Vice President of Administration Tom Jacobsmeier stated, "Such an action will send a message to contractors that the district is concerned about the proper management of the Building Program. Any changes that are made to improve the building program will be a benefit to the colleges."

LACCD's Building Program is a 14-year, \$6 billion program subsidized through taxpayer

See Turner, Page 2

lavalleystar.com

## VALLEY STUDENTS SPEAK OUT



THE DEEPEST CUT- Valley College students march down Oxnard street, north of campus Wednesday, Nov. 9, chanting, "Together! United! We'll never be divided!" in response to cuts to the Los Angeles Community College District's budget and the fee hikes

## MILLIONS IN FUNDING POSSIBLY DENIED FOR LACCD

The LACCD could  
potentially lose \$23.7  
million in state funding  
stemming from an audit.

JOSHUA P. SPENCE  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

COURTNEY BASSLER  
STAFF WRITER

The Los Angeles Community College District could be denied as much as \$23.7 million in state funds, according to a new audit filed by State Controller John Chiang.

The report states that the district did not submit accurate documentation for cost claims in addition to understating savings and reimbursements.

The repercussions of this decision would be palpable.

Instead of the \$23.7 million that the district is claiming, only \$2.5 million would be awarded in conjunction with the \$2.7 million LACCD has received for managerial costs of collecting student fees and waiving them for low-income students from July 1, 1998, through June 20, 2009.

Jeanette Gordon, LACCD's chief financial officer, is proactive regarding Chiang's audit. Gordon and her office are reviewing the report while believing that the issue is "primarily a dispute over documentation," and the district is contesting the findings. Gordon has stated that LACCD will be submitting the proper paperwork and expects a favorable ruling.

The district earns their funding through a process called apportionment. "We earn our funding by enrolling students up to the cap we are given by the state," said Valley President Sue

Carleo. "If we fall below the enrollment cap, we are cut, and if we exceed it, we are not paid for the excess enrollment."

Any funding, state or otherwise, allows more access and resources for students, the ability for various programs

**"Any reduction in funding to the district is bound to have an impact on Valley."**

-Sue Carleo  
Valley College President

such as financial aid, EOPS or CalWorks to keep functioning at a level that addresses the increase

in applicants and processing each year. Any and all monies that are allocated for specific programs and/or areas of service are always tied to certain criteria with which the funding is to be used.

The possible cuts would not only affect Valley, but all nine of the colleges in the district.

"Any reduction in funds to the district is bound to have an impact on Valley," said Carleo. "I understand this audit is being contested. I expect to hear more about it over the next month."

While it is yet to be determined how the financial situation would affect Valley in the long term, the college is unaffected at present.

"The outcome of this or any other audit will not at the present impact anyone looking to apply for financial aid this year or next," said Financial Aid Manager Vernon Bridges. "There hasn't been any final ruling or

determination as to what needs to happen, what will happen and how it could affect the nine colleges."

According to Carleo, "The impact of enrollment is felt in the next year. Since [the audit] is after the fact, one cannot do much about it. The state has also imposed other significant funding cuts over the last three years. This audit, should it result in the potential cut, [will continue] the trend [students] have seen over the last few years of reduced classes and services for students."

The process is still ongoing, but a better examination of where the district stands will be unfurled over the next month as the proper paperwork is submitted and a revised determination can be made.

## VALLEY COLLEGE ATHLETES MAY HAVE TO PAY INSURANCE TO SAVE ATHLETICS

As insurance premiums  
rise, so does the possibility  
that student-athletes may  
have to cover insurance  
costs.

LUCAS THOMPSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

The Los Angeles Community College District's athletic insurance policy has put the district on the hook for approximately \$2.2 million this year.

The premium, which is up from \$1.4 million in 2004, has seen a drastic increase due to a rise in the amount of insurance claims and an increased number of student-athletes who have no medical insurance. The insurance policy is in place as a secondary insurance for athletes who are injured while participating in an intercollegiate event. This means that

if an athlete, whose insurance covers 70 percent of his or her medical costs, tears a shoulder ligament and is in need of surgery, the school will pay the remaining 30 percent.

In an effort to cut back on these costs, Valley College recently entertained a presentation given by Kaiser Permanente for a campus-wide insurance policy that could be mandatory for student-athletes with no medical insurance to purchase. The policy would also be an available option to all students on campus, according to Valley Athletic Trainer and Advisory Board for Athletic Insurance committee member Angelo Cimity.

"[We] are looking into a low-cost insurance that would cover the student," Cimity said. "It would be just like the University level [and] it would last for the year. The reason is the premium for athletic insurance is so high."

Currently, with the exception of athletes with an HMO, the district's

athletic policy covers any additional costs left over after the student's primary insurance pays the majority of medical costs. However, if a student-athlete has no medical insurance and is injured while participating in any sport, the district is responsible for covering all medical costs.

"That's where we got in trouble," Cimity said. "We started becoming the primary; that's what started bringing this up."

According to the Master Policy, athletes are currently covered "while participating as a member of a Policy holder-sponsored and supervised intercollegiate sport." This means an athlete injured during any intercollegiate activity is covered by the school's policy for up to \$25,000.

If a plan like the Kaiser Permanente presentation is implemented, student-athletes may be forced to pay for an insurance policy through the school in order to participate in athletics. The policy would be available to all students at Valley and would not only

cover injuries during intercollegiate activity, but also all medical needs at a low cost, according to Cimity.

Despite the plan for it to be an affordable insurance policy for all student-athletes, some faculty members are concerned about the consequences of a mandatory insurance.

"I think it is a good idea because our insurance costs are so very expensive," said Valley Athletic Director Diedra Stark. "However, most of our students would not be able to afford a monthly insurance premium. I would not want any of our students to miss out on their intercollegiate athletic experience because they could not afford insurance. That would eliminate so many of our students."

Though the discussion of a mandatory insurance policy would be a major change throughout the campus, according to Cimity, this may be the solution to a very negative alternative: losing athletics.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

The Child Development  
Department is holding a  
food drive through  
Tuesday Nov. 22

They are accepting canned  
vegetables, stuffing, boxed  
side dishes and gift cards.

### ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

Valley College gets it bell  
rung in a grudge match  
against Pierce College.

These features and more can be  
found in full @  
www.lavalleystar.com

Do you have a news tip?

» Send us your news tip to [valleystar@lavalleystar.com](mailto:valleystar@lavalleystar.com) or join us on Facebook and Twitter.



## THE VALLEY STAR INFO &amp; STAFF

THE VALLEY STAR is published by students of the journalism and photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program.

Under appropriate state and federal court decisions these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Materials published herein, including any opinions expressed and advertisements should not be interpreted as the position of the Los Angeles Community College District, the college, or any office or employee thereof.

Editorials are the opinion of the editorial board only and do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff. Columns are the opinion of the writer. Letters are the opinions of the reader.

Editorial and Advertising Offices are located at 5800 Fulton Avenue Valley Glen, CA 91401 (818) 947-2576.

EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Joshua P. Spence

MANAGING EDITOR  
Lucas Thompson

PHOTO EDITOR  
Samson Uba

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Antwone Mercer

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER  
Michael Mkerchyan

STAFF WRITERS  
Courtney Bassler  
Anne Christensen  
Jessica Flores  
Michael Mkerchyan  
Jose Ramos  
Sandra Say  
Cristina Serrato

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS  
Claudia Alvarado  
Eduardo Alvarez  
John Camarena  
Maggie Hasbun  
Rocio Moreno  
Jennifer Morgan  
Diana Ortega  
Jorge Perez  
Richard Razavi  
Todd Rosenblatt

CONTRIBUTORS  
Kate Krantz

ADVERTISING MANAGER  
Chip Rudolph

ADVISERS  
Bill Dauber, Rod Lyons

## FEE INCREASE ON THE HORIZON

**Valley College students will be hit with a \$10-per-unit tuition increase by the fall 2012 semester.**

ANNE CHRISTENSEN  
STAFF WRITER

Students at Valley College will see a 28-percent increase in tuition fees, up from \$36 to \$46 per unit, starting with the fall 2012 semester. The tuition increase comes at a time when Valley is struggling with both a five-percent budget reduction and an increase in the cost of utilities and supplies, according to Valley President Sue Carleo.

The California State Legislature sets the tuition fees for all nine colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District. The fall tuition increase was approved after the California state legislature determined that it was needed to supplement government funding.

Valley student Wenceslao Sarmientl, a 29-year-old music

major, wasn't aware of the tuition increase and speculates that the increase will result in students dropping out, taking longer to finish or not enrolling at all. "It might take seven or eight years to finish a bachelor's degree; it'll just continue," said Sarmientl. Students might also be forced to seek employment to cover living and tuition costs. "Personally, I work. I know there's financial aid, but I didn't qualify. A lot of students don't qualify, but they also don't know about it [financial aid]. They might try to apply once—not qualify—and not try again," said Sarmientl.

Art major Esmat Arjomand, 49, feels bad for the students who might be forced to work more or stop attending college. "Most students will have to work more and study less," Arjomand said. Finances might dissuade people from getting a bachelor's degree, according to Arjomand. "High school isn't enough, so students come to college but can't afford it."

Whether the tuition increase will put off people seeking higher education remains to be seen. "I plan to transfer and get my masters degree, but the more I hear about the fee increases ... I don't know," said Sarmientl. People might just settle for a promotion at work, according to Sarmientl. "Why get an education when I'm in a stable job? Raising the fees is making it harder for students. You have to work in order to pay for school. It's upside down."

This is the second time since 2008 that the tuition fees at Valley have increased, the first being from \$20 to \$36. It is yet unknown if the increase, which is equal to an additional \$120 per semester for a full-time student with a course load of 12 units, will continue to rise or remain steady in the future. "I look forward to the day when costs go down and funds increase, but it may not happen very soon, if at all," said Carleo, who advises students to expect continued increases in future semesters.

Turner

Continued from page 1

bonds and supplemented by additional funding from the state of California. The district's nine colleges have received brand new and renovated academic buildings, sports facilities, arts complexes, administrative buildings, child development centers and parking structures. With approximately half the budget already spent, LACCD wants to make sure the remaining portion goes more smoothly.

"Changes at this time will have an effect on all current and future building contracts," noted Jacobsmeier. "The message to contractors will be that the district expects strict adherence to the rules and regulations regarding the Building Program."

Due process requires that each contractor should and will have an opportunity to explain its actions prior to a decision by the Board of Trustees; however, the LACCD remains vigilant. "At the same time, at the direction of the Board, we will continue to reform the Building Program and take whatever steps are necessary to protect taxpayer dollars and deliver results," said LaVista.

## THE INS AND OUTS OF REGISTRATION

**Priority registration could determine whether students get into the class they need.**

ANNE CHRISTENSEN  
STAFF WRITER

About 3,000 students received priority registrations during the fall and winter semesters in 2011. According to Valley College President Sue Carleo, the priority registration provides greater opportunity and equity because the priority students come from the most disadvantaged backgrounds.

Students' grades don't have any effect on the registration appointment, but the more units a continuing student has accumulated, the sooner the registration appointment.

Students registering for classes in the Los Angeles Community College District are given a personalized online registration appointment that determines when they can sign up for a class.

Some students, however, are given an advantage with a priority registration. While this makes it possible for them to sign up for in-demand classes in advance, it also means that classes may be full before the majority of students get a chance to register.

Jonathan Linares, a 21-year-old English major, is headed to the University of Berkeley after three and a half years at Valley. "Registration was a real hassle the first year, then it gradually got better," said Linares, who early on struggled to register for classes that were later

cancelled due to budget cuts. "I think priority should be given to first-year students," said Linares.

The registration appointments are arranged according to which of four groups students fall into when first coming to the college: priority, continuing, new and returning, and K-12, according to Vice President of Student Services Florentino Manzano.

Having priority registration—which is required under California law—allows students enrolled in the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) or the Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) and those who are part of veterans and foster youth groups an advantage over the majority of students when it comes to registering for classes.

Returning graphic art student Shelton Gifford, 57, acknowledges that determining which students should qualify for the priority registration is difficult. "Right off

the bat, seniors who have paid their dues should get priority, a little leg up. But a part [of me] says it should be even for everyone."

Gifford fears the struggle to register for classes will only get worse in the future, but he doesn't blame Valley. "Valley is doing great with the money they have. In college, there's a pecking order, so it makes sense to have a priority registration," Gifford said.

Students who were unsuccessful in registering for a class during their registration appointment have the option to add by asking the instructor for permission. This is something Gifford would like Valley to make more obvious to new students. "Don't be discouraged by the add-on because people drop out," Gifford said.

Carleo echoes Gifford's advice when it comes to students struggling to register for classes: "Never give up."

## STUDENTS KEEP CAMPUS CLEAN

**Dozens of students participated in the ASU's first campus clean-up of the semester.**

SANDRA SAY  
STAFF WRITER

Despite the gloomy weather, dozens of Valley College students gathered in Student Services Center 205 Thursday to pick up biodegradable plastic gloves and bags to begin the first campus clean-up of the semester, a joint effort between the Associated Student Union and various campus clubs.

"We try to make the campus look a little bit nicer so that you can enjoy being a part of it," said Tau Alpha Epsilon President Shawn Besharaty, whose club suggested the idea to the ASU Commissioner of Campus and Environmental Affairs Lester B. Salvador. According to Salvador, the event received strong

support from ASU, the campus radio station, KVCM, and other clubs.

The 30-to-35 students who participated were spread out in different locations such as parking lots, Monarch Square and Campus Drive.

"There is so much trash; it's not that we should be cleaning it up, it's [that] people should be not littering in the first place," said Eco Advocates Club member Stephanie Velasco. "There are trash cans everywhere; they [students] should throw their trash in the proper spot!"

"In the time we were out there, we saw [medicinal] drugs, we saw pencils, CDs and trash of all types of food, and picked up one condom," said Besharaty. Within 15 minutes, his group filled three bags in parking lot A alone. Salvador, ASU's campus and environmental affairs commissioner, added, "People are very inconsiderate in terms of throwing away their trash."

The most common object that

almost every student participating in the clean-up found was cigarette butts. "If these smokers insist in throwing their smokes on the floor, they don't deserve the right to smoke on campus," said TAE member Sonia Robles. "I think they should ban smoking and fine students that are smoking, and then we could raise money that way." After observing the amount of cigarette butts found, Salvador is considering a competition for the next clean-up that would award a prize to the student who finds the most butts.

"If we made this a school event, maybe we can all help to keep campus clean," said Robles. "Just take the extra steps and throw it [garbage] in the trash!"

Students can contribute by volunteering for the next clean-ups, scheduled for Nov. 22 and Dec. 8 from 4 to 5 p.m. A pizza party will follow the last campus clean-up.

## MURRAY PREPS HISTORY CLASS FOR D.C.

**Students enrolled in history 11 or directed studies will be given the opportunity to go on an East Coast trip.**

JESSICA FLORES  
STAFF WRITER

Valley College history students are preparing to take their education on the road.

Valley history instructor Rick Murray will be organizing a field trip to the East Coast for students taking history 11 or directed studies during the summer of 2012.

"This trip will give students a chance to be able to experience most of the stuff we talk about in class," said Murray. "We talk about the Constitution, so it will be something we will see in D.C."

The 18-day trip, from June 23

through July 11, will take students to four historically significant locations on the East Coast. Students will visit Boston for four days and see the Freedom Trail, and Plymouth, where the Pilgrims landed after crossing the Atlantic. Philadelphia will be visited for another four days to see the Liberty Bell, Constitution Museum, Independence Hall and Franklin Court. Next is Gettysburg for one day. The last stop will be nine days in Washington, D.C., where students will go to Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's one-time home, Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, the U.S. Capitol, Smithsonian Museums, National Archives and Ford's Theatre, where Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.

The program is capped at 25 participants, so space is limited. The per-student cost of the trip will depend on how many sign up. Included in the prices are airfare, transportation

between cities, accommodations, all tours and continental breakfast. Based on 15 participants, single occupancy is \$4,435 per person in one hotel room with one bed. Double occupancy is \$3,155 per person in one hotel room with two beds. Triple occupancy is \$2,725 per person in one hotel room with two beds. Quad occupancy is \$2,515 per person in one hotel room with two beds.

If interested, a \$100 deposit must be made by Dec. 8. There is a possible price reduction if 20 participants are confirmed. Lorena Armenta has given her deposit already.

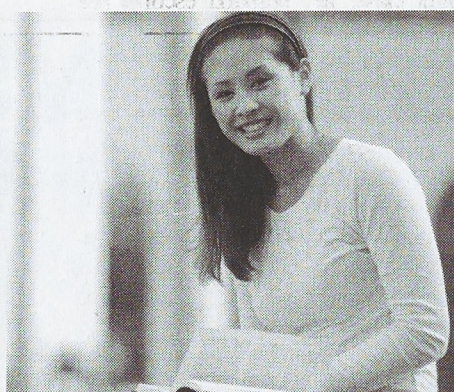
"I am planning on going if all goes well and enough people sign up," said Armenta. "I'm hoping to be able to pay it all myself, saving up from my checks from work and all. I might need some help from my parents but, hopefully, I won't. Of course, I will miss home, but at the same time, it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that I just can't pass up."



**JOIN THE VALLEY STAR**  
The Valley Star is looking for dedicated students when it comes to reporting and journalism. We welcome writers, designers and video editors who can contribute.  
To receive more info on joining the Valley Star, please visit us at:  
**WWW.LAVALLEYSTAR.COM/JOIN**

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITY®

▶ **ADVANCE YOUR EDUCATION, ADVANCE YOUR CAREER**



**OPEN HOUSE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19 AT 10 A.M.**

Receive detailed information about our many programs and find the answers to all your education questions in one place.

At the open house, you can:

- Speak with faculty and admissions staff
- Tour our Los Angeles campus
- Learn about financial aid options available

Our Los Angeles campus offers programs in:

- Business and Management
- Education
- Engineering, Technology and Media
- Health and Human Services
- Letters and Sciences

Application fee will be waived for attendees.

**RSVP TODAY**  
**www.nu.edu/openhouses**  
**800.NAT.UNIV**

LOS ANGELES CAMPUS  
5245 Pacific Concourse Drive, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, CA 90045



THE UNIVERSITY OF VALUES  
A Nonprofit University Accredited by WASC  
An Affiliate of The National University System



## POT, KETTLE, BLACK

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences should practice what it preaches.

JOSHUA P. SPENCE  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The only thing wrong with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences' handling of Brett Ratner's resignation is what the move is supposed to represent.

Ratner, who was tapped in August to produce the 2012 Academy Awards yet resigned his post Nov. 8 after making a comment on The Howard Stern Show stating that "rehearsing is for fags."

For the record, Ratner is a complete idiot. There is no conceivable way for the director to come out of this fiasco unscathed when today's media is ever present and ever ready to skewer anyone saying anything remotely politically incorrect, especially if it's "rehearsing is for fags."

From a cultural point, society likes to claim political correctness, but at the heart of it, too many people are too comfortable with stereotyping. While that may be sad but true, the preening behind the faux political correctness is too hypocritical to overlook.

Regarding the Ratner issue, Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences President Tom Sherak said, "The academy is a special place. It's about integrity in every way, shape or form. It's spent its

entire 80 something years trying to be above in what his mission is." Apparently Sherak and the entire academy must not have seen Adam Sandler's latest fecal fest, "Jack and Jill." While the film is god-awful enough to merit its own review, the stereotyping in that film is appalling.

Two moments stand out. One: Jill is having a tough time navigating the Internet while Jack's caucasian daughter and adopted Indian son look on. As she continues to struggle, the young girl helps Jill, at which point Jill declares that she's so surprised that the daughter was talented at computers as she expected the son to be more talented because he's, you know, Indian.

Two: Jill, who is extremely homely and lonely, eventually falls for the gardener, who also happens to be Mexican. As the two go out to a family function, Felipe introduces everyone in his family as "Jose." Cut to some poorly executed slapstick, and Jill accidentally knocks out grandma who could only be revived by being force-fed red peppers. This isn't stereotyping as much as true fact because everyone knows that red peppers is the only thing that will revive a Mexican. Good fun for the whole family.

The point is this: before Sherak or whatever public relations person drummed this short-sighted response to Brett Ratner, they should examine their whole product, not just the part that directly affects them. What the academy is preaching isn't zero tolerance on intolerance but rather mountebank.

The point is this: before Sherak or whatever public relations person drummed this short-sighted response to Brett Ratner, they should examine their whole product, not just the part that directly affects them. What the academy is preaching isn't zero tolerance on intolerance but rather mountebank.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The views expressed on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Valley Star, its instructors, editors, staff or those of Los Angeles Valley College, its administrators, faculty, staff, or students.

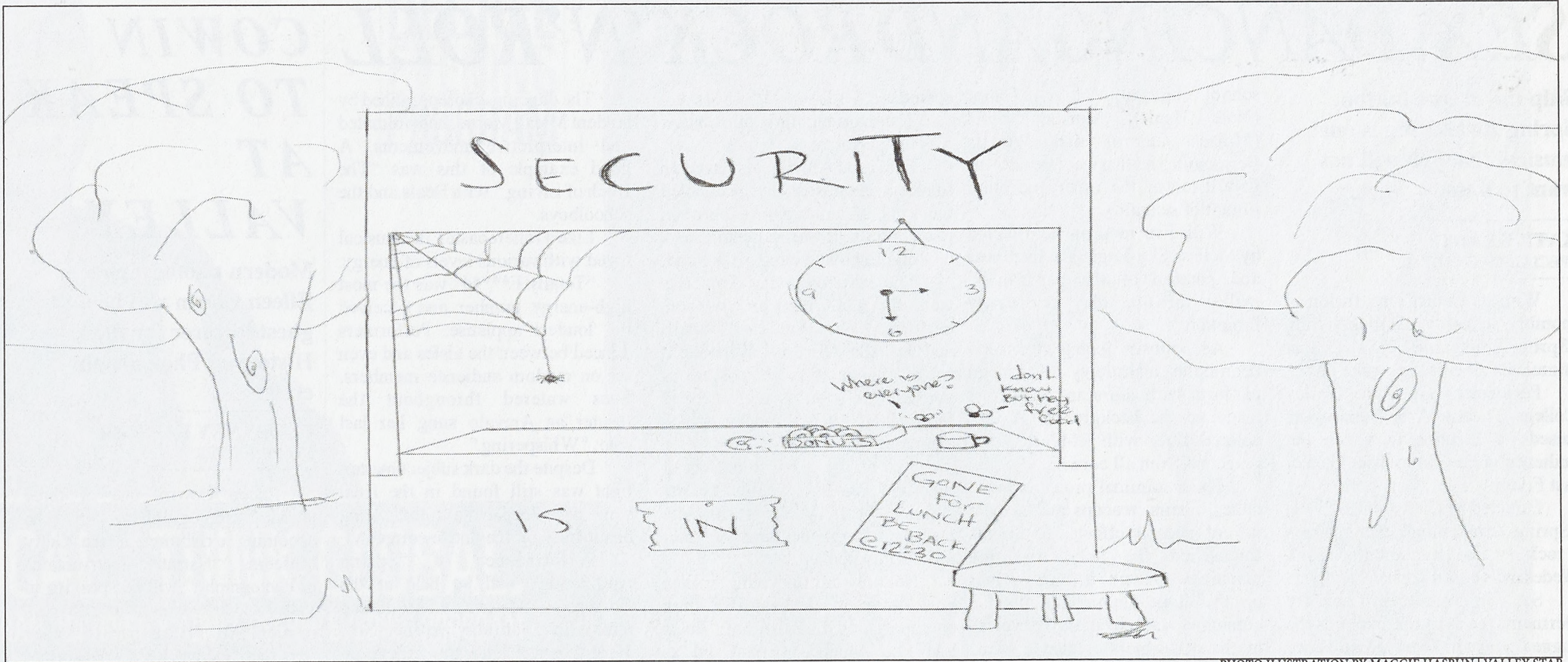


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MAGGIE HASBUN | VALLEY STAR

## LACK OF SECURITY ON CAMPUS SPOOKS STUDENTS

Hide your keys, hide your phone, grab a flashlight.

KATE KRANTZ  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

According to Deputy Ricky Baker, the security system upgrades at Valley College will make the campus safer at night. But, what should students do as they walk back to their cars...tonight?

Picture this: It's 10 p.m., and your instructor has just excused you from your last class of the day.

When you walk outside, the air is bitter and the sky is pitch black.

Once you arrive at the parking lot, light poles dimly glow as another down the path flickers as quick as a flash of lightning.

Upon reaching your car, you notice your blue Honda Civic with two shattered windows. The stereo system and the iPod are gone.

You look around to see if there is a campus security guard, but there is

not a single person in sight except for the classmate you said goodbye to five minutes before you parted ways.

You begin to panic. As you attempt to dial numbers on your cell phone, you suddenly realize that you do not know the emergency sheriff's number. Panting to catch a breath, you discover that this car possesses an unfamiliar license plate and your car is a few spaces down the lot.

You take a deep breath in relief. Today, you are lucky. But, this could be you tomorrow.

Three Mondays ago, the Dance Club was burglarized during a meeting held in the Field House during broad daylight. Wallets, money and identification cards were stolen.

"It [was] so unnerving [and] very violating," said Student and Dance Club President Noelle Andressen.

Despite the police report, the robbers have not been caught.

"The college is open to the public, so we can't really prevent people

coming into the campus who [are] here for illegal means," said Baker.

As soon as next year, Valley's security system could include emergency telephones, security cameras and call boxes in every parking lot to further enhance campus safety.

Yet, why weren't these improvements implemented sooner? The culprit: budgets cuts.

"We're not exempt," said Baker. "The staffing is based on the college's budget for officer staff and then spread out over the time that the college needs it most."

The on-campus office of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is comprised of 25 personnel, including two deputies, security and cadet officers. The sheriff's office is staffed seven days per week, 24 hours per day.

Staffing varies to the difference from day to day traffic on campus. Andressen explained that after every night class, her husband escorts her

home. The insufficient dim lighting and lack of officers she sees on campus makes her feel insecure.

It's common sense. There should be a higher demand for more officers in the evening to steer clear from such apprehension.

With adequate lighting and regular patrolling, crime can be better avoided.

A way for students to minimize criminal activity is to prevent bringing valuables to campus, and if it's inevitable, do not let your property out of your sight.

"Statistically, crime has decreased over the years," said Baker. "But, students should be concerned. They should always feel like their safety is important to them."

Students deserve to be aware of the procedures to protect themselves.

Thieves are not going to come into a well-guarded residence, so let's protect our Monarch home.

## GOT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

Letters to the editor can be sent to:

[editor@lavalleystar.com](mailto:editor@lavalleystar.com) or submitted online at

[www.lavalleystar.com](http://www.lavalleystar.com). Letters must be limited to 300 words and may be edited for content. Full name and contact information must be supplied in order for letters to be printed. Send by Thursday for the following week's issue.



COURTESY OF SMARTASSSPORTS.COM

## THE SOUND OF SILENCE

The firing of Penn State's long-time Head Coach Joe Paterno was a long time coming.

LUCAS THOMPSON  
MANAGING EDITOR

The removal of Penn State's head football coach Joe Paterno last Wednesday evening was not the end of a legacy or legend ... it was the end of a dictatorship.

It was neither tragic nor

unfortunate to see Paterno, who had been head coach at Penn State for 46 years, fired after the exposure of a deep and dark secret, which had remained hidden inside Penn State's walls for more than nine years. His termination was nothing more than a small victory for the reported eight young boys who had been molested by Paterno's long-time assistant coach and friend, Jerry Sandusky.

Paterno's career has not only been tarnished, but destroyed,

and here's why; in 2002, then-graduate assistant coach Mike McQueary walked in on Sandusky sexually molesting a young boy in the shower of Penn State's Lasch Football Building. Sandusky had retired three years prior but still had an office on campus from which he headed his Second Mile Foundation for needy children. The following day, McQueary drove over to Paterno's home and explained what he had seen. Paterno then informed Penn State Athletic Director Tim Curley about the event.

Nothing was reported to the authorities.

According to the L.A. Times, almost two weeks after the incident, Curley and Vice President Gary Shultz then met with Sandusky to inform him that he would no longer be allowed to bring any Second Mile children onto campus.

So here is the message: 'It is fine to molest young boys off campus, but make sure you do not bring them here. It's acceptable for you, a man in your 50s, to assault and permanently damage the lives of innocent and helpless children.' Despite his actions, Sandusky continued to work as a member of the Penn State community and kept his office located inside the football building.

"If this is true, we were all fooled, along with scores of professionals trained in such things," Paterno said in a statement last Sunday. "While I did what I was supposed to do with the one charge brought to my attention, like anyone else involved, I can't help but be deeply saddened these matters are alleged to have occurred."

Oh, really? He did what he was supposed to do? He was fooled? In the one instance where Paterno should have thrown out "what he was supposed to do" and taken matters into his own hands, he failed. In a time where he could have saved the lives of scarred children from being continually molested by a staff member, who at one point was thought to be Paterno's successor, he did the minimum of what he was supposed to do, by law, and kept silent. Curley and Shultz are charged with perjury and failure to report that they knew about the allegations, yet Paterno remains unscathed.

The most powerful man on the Penn State campus and one of the most powerful men in college football, a man who had never followed orders or changed anything in his decision making because of a higher power or authority "did what he was supposed to do"? Maybe he should have "done what he

was supposed to do" when the "superiors" came to his house and urged him to resign as head coach. Instead, he kicked them out and continued coaching despite what may have been best for the Nittany Lions football program.

Paterno has always done it his way, and his decision to not only sweep under the rug the malicious acts done by Sandusky, but also to allow him to remain on campus is abominable.

In a continued effort to control his destiny and dictate to those above him, Paterno announced last Wednesday that he would resign after the season.

"That's why I have decided to announce my retirement effective at the end of this season," Paterno said in a statement. "At this moment, the Board of Trustees should not spend a single minute discussing my status. They have far more important matters to address. I want to make this as easy for them as I possibly can."

"With blood on his hands, Paterno still wanted control. It was here, once again, that Paterno went away from "what he was supposed to do." He was supposed to resign ... instead, he was fired. He was supposed to report the child molestations, the sexual assaults, the pain and agony ... instead, he kept quiet.

## VALLEY VIEW | DOES THE CAMPUS HAVE ENOUGH SECURITY?



"I think the campus has enough security in the mornings and in the afternoons, but not at night."

-ANA GARCIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE



"Yeah, I see a lot of security walking around. There's not really much that goes on here, and security is there for like every little thing."

-FADIAN ALNABER  
FIRE TECH



"No, especially not at night. Most of the time, I will be walking and I'll see a creep and he won't stop following me."

-INGRID JANKINS  
ENGINEERING



"I think so because I see them everywhere. I see them in the hallways and I've seen them in the cafeteria."

-JONATHAN WILLIAMS  
PSYCHOLOGY



"I don't really see much chaos going around, so generally, I feel safe around the school."

-MARIA ORAP  
PHARMACOLOGY



## SEX, DANCING AND ROCK 'N' ROLL

**Skip the snooze button, Spring Awakening is one musical that you will not want to miss.**

**KATE KRANTZ**  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

With its electrifying fusion of morality, sexuality and rock 'n' roll, "Spring Awakening" is a show that stimulates all ears. So, wake up.

Performers from the Valley College Theatre Arts Department raised its curtains to a sold-out audience at the Horseshoe Theater last Friday.

Directed by Cathy Susan Pyles, "Spring Awakening" encompasses a rock musical adaptation of Frank Wedekind's controversial 1892 play.

Set in nineteenth-century Germany, the storyline explores the rugged journey from adolescence to adulthood through the eyes of

school children Melchior Gabor (Nate Beals), Moritz Stiefel (Moises Castro) and Wendla Bergmann (Katharine Arevalo) as they discover the inner and outer tumult of sexuality.

With live rock music directed by Melissa Sky-Eagle, the liveliness and passion of the performers, makes for one play not easily forgotten.

As opposed to big signs and neon lights, a shadowy silver metal platform with stairs and a balcony made up the background. A tan-colored floor with jet-black vines branched from all corners.

There minimal props included tables, chairs, teacups and a mere use of special effects. Spotlights intensified the acts, and fog machines created a milky river on the stage floor. This illusion combined with the siren-like voices of the performers created a scene similar to that of a "Twilight Zone"

episode. The main highlight of the show was the performers.

Beals and Arevalo displayed an innocent chemistry that resembled the kind of smitten love between two children. It was as genuine as a boy tugging on a young girl's braid.

The most dynamic characters were the adult men and women, performed by Freddie Donelli and Isabella Oliveria. Whether it was a change of voice, posture or garment, as soon as they stepped foot onstage, it was evident which character they were.

One of the greatest aspects of the show was the singing. Hearts skipped beats when performers pulled microphones out of their jackets and pockets.

Not only did the young women performers reach beautiful high soprano notes, but also both Beals and Leo Amance (Ernst) did as well.

The dancing, choreographed by student Micah Moore, had animated and interpretive movements. A good example of this was "The Bitch of Living," with Beals and the schoolboys.

Like a rollercoaster, the musical toyed with various levels of energy.

"Totally F\*\*\*\*d" was the most high-energy number and received the loudest applause. Performers danced between the aisles and even sat on random audience members. Eyes watered throughout the theater as Arevalo sung her last solo, "Whispering."

Despite the dark subject matter, light was still found in the final song of "Purple Summer," sung beautifully by the entire company.

Performances of "Spring Awakening" will be held at the Horseshoe Theater Nov. 17 to 19 at 8 p.m. with a Saturday matinee Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. Check the gallery on page six for more coverage.

## COWIN TO SPEAK AT VALLEY

**Modern photographer Eileen Cowin will be a guest lecturer for the History of Photography class.**

**COURTNEY BASSLER**  
STAFF WRITER

Eileen Cowin, one of three female photographers in the upcoming exhibition at the Getty Museum, "Narrative Interventions in Photography," will be speaking at Valley College tonight at 8:15 p.m. in room Art 103, as part of Valley Arts Dean Dennis Reed's History of Photography class.

Cowin's work in this exhibit plays off of storytelling and truth.

"Cowin's large, color photographs pair images—including one of a woman pressing a fork against her tongue with one of a mutilated book—which suggest that words in all forms can deceive," wrote Jessica Portner with the Getty in the blog titled "The Iris: Views from The Getty."

"Narrative Interventions in Photography" opened Oct. 25 alongside exhibits by other contemporary photographers such as Carrie Mae Weems and Simryn Gill.

Reed asked Cowin to lecture his class and the timing could not be better, as his students saw Cowin's work at The Getty and are writing a paper on it.

"I have known Eileen's work for years, ... and I met her a couple of years ago," said Reed. "I am the chair emeritus of the Photographic Arts Council at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and I saw [her] at one of our Council events. [That] is when I asked her if she would be willing to speak to students."

Reed has had several notable photographers speak to his class, including Los Angeles Times photographer Kirk McKoy, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner.

"[Students] see that the artists are real people, just like them, which hopefully suggests to students, 'if they can do it, so can I,'" said Reed. "Also, the students hear firsthand about the concerns, problems and challenges faced by these artists."

Seats are limited, so those interested in attending Cowin's lecture should email Dean Reed at reeddj@lavc.edu.

## LAVC Events

**Wednesday, Nov. 17**

UC Merced Admissions Representative sponsored by LAVC Career/Transfer Center @ 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. (Student Services Annex - Career/Transfer Center) - Contact: LAVC Career/Transfer Center (818) 947-2646 Career/Transfer Center Web Page

Antioch University Admissions Representative sponsored by LAVC Career/Transfer Center @ 10 a.m.- 12 noon (Monarch Square) - Contact: LAVC Career/Transfer Center (818) 947-2646 Career/Transfer Center Web Page

New Student Orientation sponsored by LAVC Counseling Department @ 10 a.m.- 12 noon (Student Services Center - Multi-Purpose Room) - Contact: Barbara Goldberg (818) 947-2647 Counseling Department Web Page

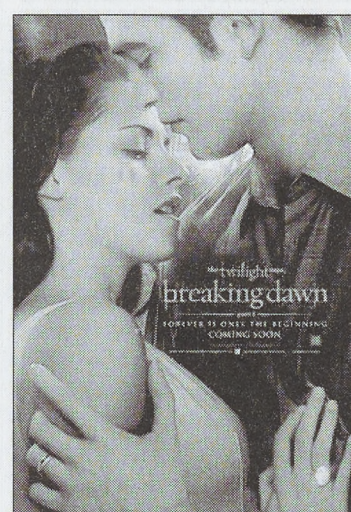
"Dane Picard, Selected Works" Exhibition sponsored by LAVC Art Gallery @ 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. & 6- 9 p.m. (LAVC Art Gallery); Parking: Lot B & C - Contact: Phung Huynh (818) 947-4231 LAVC Art Gallery Web Page

Study Away 2012: Alicante, Spain Informational Meeting sponsored by LAVC Study Away @ 1- 2 p.m. (Foreign Language 106) - Contact: Dr. Rafael Arias (818) 947-2387 Study Away in Spain Web Page

LAVC Commercial Music Faculty Concert sponsored by the LAVC Music Department @ 1- 2 p.m. (Music 106 - Music Recital Hall); Admission: Free - Contact: LAVC Music Department Concert Hotline (818) 778-5633 Music Department Web Page

## @ THE MOVIES

### OPENING THIS WEEKEND



### THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN

KRISTEN STEWART, ROBERT PATTINSON, TAYOR LAUTNER

### TOP 5 BOX OFFICE:

- IMMORTALS \$7M+
- PUSS IN BOOTS: \$6M+
- JACK AND JILL: 5M+
- TOWER HEIST: \$2M+
- J. EDGAR: \$2M+

### CONCERTS & THEATRE



•KROQ ALMOST ACOUSTIC XMAS: NIGHT 1 DEC. 10  
BLINK-182  
INCUBUS  
SOCIAL DISTORTION  
311

### FOOD REVIEW



RICHARD RAZAVI | VALLEY STAR

**PRETTY BALLSY-** 2 panko crusted macaroni n' cheese with marinara sauce only cost \$7.95

## MAD BULL'S TAVERN HAS GOT THE BALLS

**The Sherman Oaks Tavern is a good stop for happy hour and a happy stomach.**

**COURTNEY BASSLER**  
STAFF WRITER

Mad Bull's Tavern suits more than just the 20-somethings of the valleys. On any given night, this watering hole has loud crowds at standing room only capacity.

Mad Bull's Tavern, with inside and outside seating, works well for most Southern California nights. But, be prepared for large groups as this is an ideal place for a group of friends to meet up for a beer, good food and a fun time.

The Lord of the Fries starter plate is a good item to split. The fries, in regular or sweet potato form, come with chicken chili and cheese and are cooked to a crisp.

Another delectable appetizer

is the Bull's Balls, which is a different take on an American classic, macaroni and cheese. The cheese balls have a thick panko crust, are deep fried and are served in a bowl of marinara cream sauce. The sauce comes across as more of a soup, which could be hit or miss depending on your preference. Either way, this dish requires a certain intestinal fortitude to order.

The Seared Ahi Tuna burger is a definite standout on the menu. The burger doesn't reek of the sea, and the bun soaks up the juice of the ponzu coleslaw, which has the prototypical crunch for a burger. The spicy ginger aioli juxtaposed with the tomato, green onion, cilantro and jalapeños create just the proper amount of acidity.

The Tavern Pizza is an unlikely combination of chicken, basil pesto, mozzarella cheese and a mango-papaya salsa. It comes together nicely with the sweetness of the salsa and the coolness of the basil pesto and the mozzarella.

While Mad Bull's is heavy on the protein, the bar on the boulevard also has a secret vegetarian menu to accommodate everyone.

Mad Bull's Tavern is located at 14649 Ventura Blvd. in Sherman Oaks and is open Monday - Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Get Your Associates Degree and go to Law School.

- ☐ Good Idea.
- ☐ Great Idea.
- ☐ All of the above.

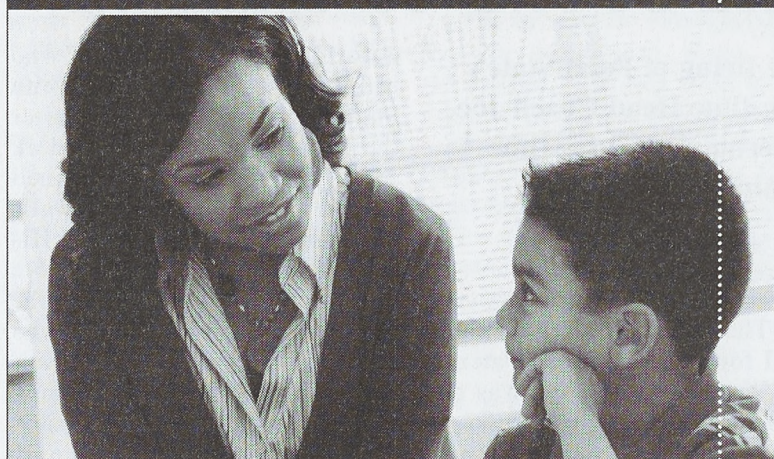
Enroll in Trinity Law School in the Fall.

You can attend law school upon completion of your Associates Degree. Go straight to law school. Save time, save money, and get a great education with unlimited opportunities.

### TRINITY LAW SCHOOL

2200 North Grand Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705  
800.922.4748 | www.TLS.edu

### Complete Your Bachelor's Degree at Azusa Pacific University



Choose from accelerated degrees online or on campus.

#### LIBERAL STUDIES

The B.A. in Liberal Studies (LIBS) will prepare you for a career in education. In less than two years, you could be on your way to teaching in your own classroom.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The versatile B.S. in Organizational Leadership (BSOL) makes it easy to take the next step in your career. You will learn relevant business strategies that can empower you to become an effective leader.

#### ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

- Complete your degree in less than two years.
- Choose to earn your degree online, or attend class only one night a week at a location near you.
- Applicants for the Liberal Studies program must be at least 22 years old; Organizational Leadership program applicants must be at least 25.

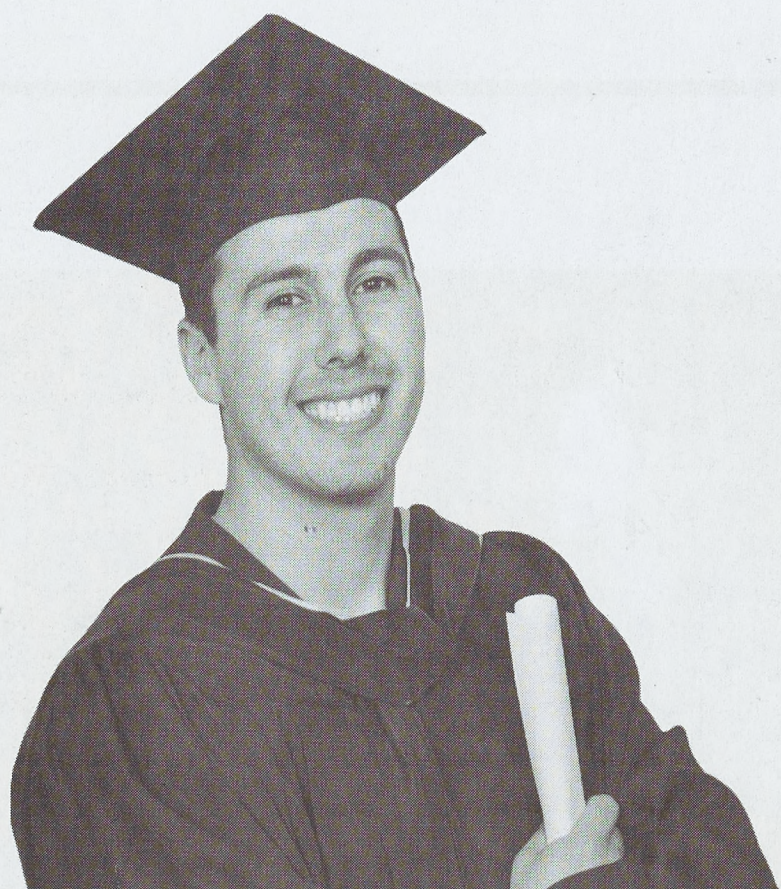
Find out about the next Liberal Studies or Organizational Leadership program start date. Contact us today!

**CALL** (626) 815-5301  
**CLICK** [www.apu.edu/explore/caps](http://www.apu.edu/explore/caps)



AZUSA | HIGH DESERT | INLAND EMPIRE | LOS ANGELES  
MURRIETA | ORANGE COUNTY | SAN DIEGO | VENTURA COUNTY | ONLINE





CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY  
**ADULT  
DEGREE  
EVENING  
PROGRAM**

## LEARN LOCAL. THINK GLOBAL.

THE CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY ADULT DEGREE EVENING PROGRAM

*Our Bachelor's Adult Degree Evening Program  
has moved to NEW Woodland Hills Center.*

**TRANSFER TO CLU:**

- Convenient, evening and online formats to fit your busy lifestyle
- Accelerated 11-week terms
- Transfer up to 70 community college credits
- Recognition of the general education transfer curriculum (IGETC) to satisfy lower division requirements

**BACHELOR'S DEGREES OFFERED:**

- Accounting
- Business Management
- Organizational Leadership (Now Online!)
- Psychology

Make an appointment with Vanessa Chacon, Assistant Director of ADEP Woodland Hills, at 805.493.3324 or [vchacon@callutheran.edu](mailto:vchacon@callutheran.edu).

**FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE**



**1.888.CLU-GRAD | [www.callutheran.edu/adep](http://www.callutheran.edu/adep)**

THREE CONVENIENT LOCATIONS: THOUSAND OAKS, OXNARD AND WOODLAND HILLS

## Complete your dream.

The Bachelor of Science  
in Management

**The Pepperdine Advantage**

- Lead the way by adding the prestige of Pepperdine University to your resumé
- Complete your bachelor's degree in two years with evening and weekend classes, and earn your MBA in as little as one additional year
- Transfer to Pepperdine's Graziadio School with a minimum of 60 lower-division units
- Guaranteed admission through TAG community college partnerships

Learn more by attending an upcoming **Information Session.**

**Encino Campus:**

Wednesday, November 16  
Tuesday, December 6

**[bschool.pepperdine.edu](http://bschool.pepperdine.edu)**

**Master the leader in you.**

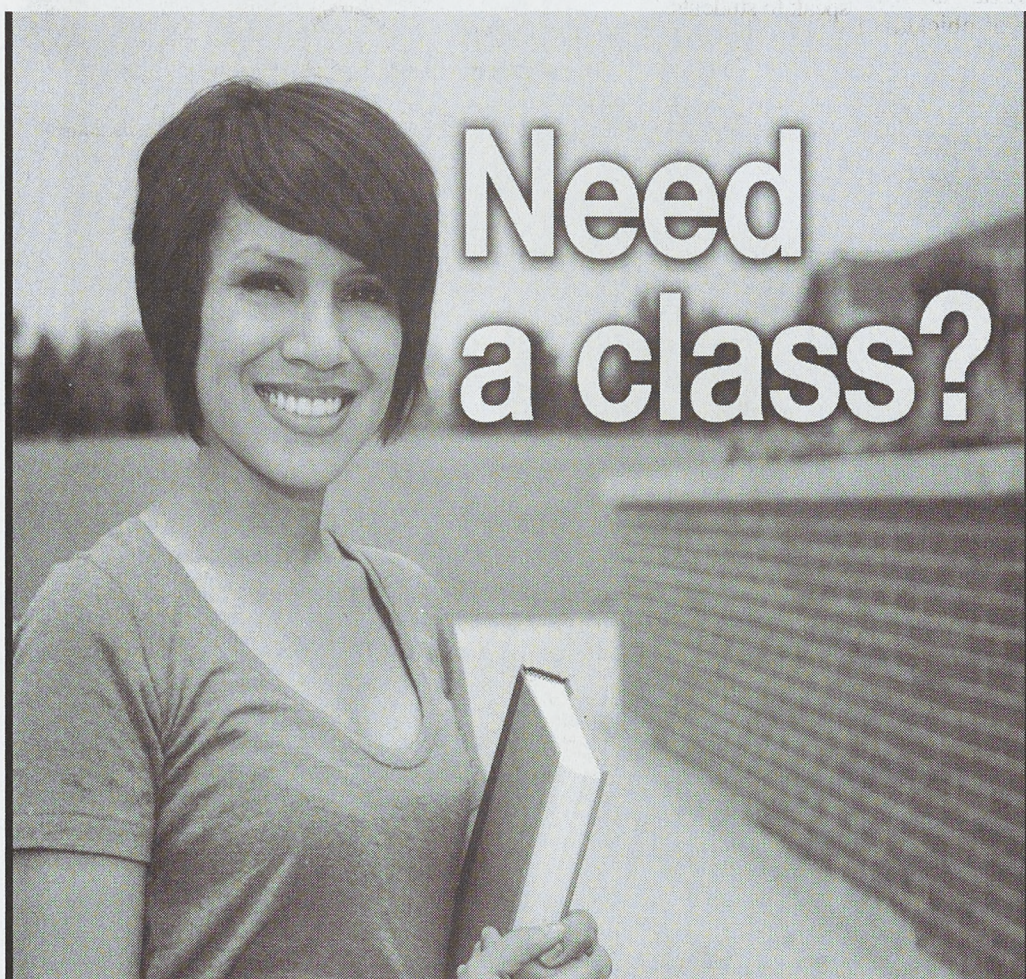
**PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY**

Graziadio School of Business and Management

Encino, West LA, and Irvine Graduate Campuses

**Kevin Streeter**

Director of Ambulatory Surgery Center,  
St. John's Hospital  
Bachelor of Science in Management 2011



**Registration Begins January 23**

## OPEN UNIVERSITY

### Your Access to California State University, Northridge

You can take academic-credit classes at California State University, Northridge this Spring 2012 without formal application and admission to the university.

Community college students can take the same university classes as regularly enrolled Cal State Northridge students, so long as they meet course prerequisites, space is available in the class, and the instructor approves.

Credits earned through Open University may be applied to degree work and transferred to other universities.

Enroll in Open University courses through Cal State Northridge's Tseng College.



**<http://TsengCollege.CSUN.edu/spring.html>**

**818.677.2504**

.....  
Spring 2012 classes start January 23.

Registration for Open University takes place online and in person, Jan. 23 – Feb. 10.

Course Fees: \$320 per unit  
.....



California State University  
**Northridge**



# Gallery

6 NOVEMBER 16, 2011 | VALLEY STAR



SAMSON UBA, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR  
**THE BIRDS AND THE BEES** - Wendla (Katherine Arevalo), left, asks her mother, Frau Bergemann (Isabella Oliveira), about how babies are made.



RICHARD RAZAVI | VALLEY STAR  
**SHARING A MOMENT** - Wendla stumbles upon Melchior (Nate Beals) as he sits writing under a tree and they spend time together as they did when they were younger.

## SPRING AWAKENING SPARKS THE SENSES

### Text By

KATE KRANTZ  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

### Photos By

SAMSON UBA  
& RICHARD RAZAVI  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

Stop sleeping in class.

Assuming you have just raised your head from a desk after noticing laptop keyboard indentations on your face, what if in that same instant, a student yanked out a microphone from inside his jacket, fixed his eyes on you and began screaming amplified angst into your ears?

This is not a dream. This is "Spring Awakening."

According to Valley College student and Assistant Director Jon Cortez, Valley is the first school in Southern California to be granted the rights to present "Spring Awakening," the 2007 Tony Award-winning musical, with book and lyrics by Steven Sater and music by Duncan Sheik.

Under the direction of Cathy Susan Pyles and orchestrated by Melissa Sky-Eagle, this unforgettable production is a coming-of-age rock-inspired musical that will leave you with your eyes wide open.

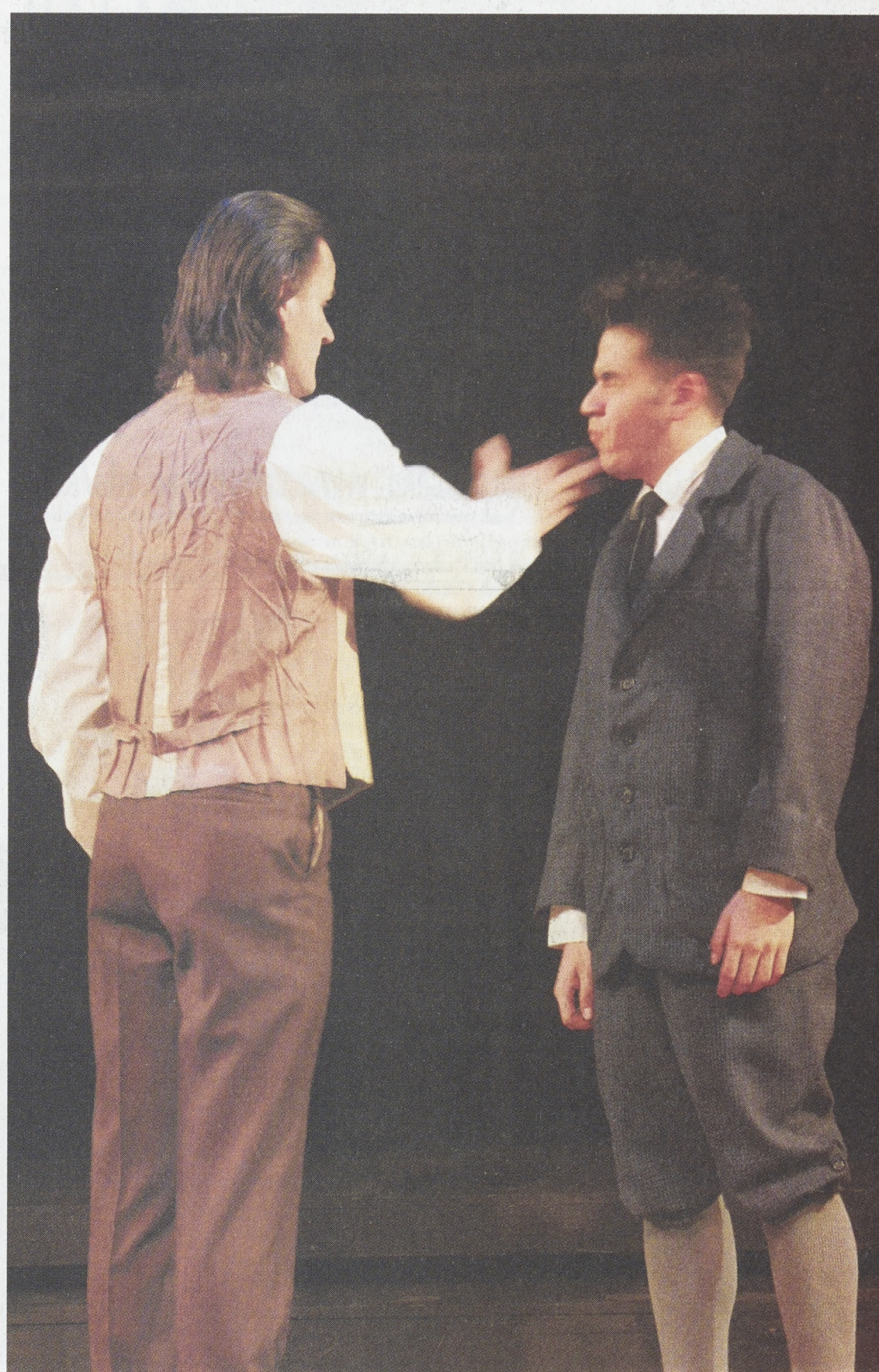
Performances of "Spring Awakening" will be held at the Horseshoe Theater Nov. 17 to 19 at 8 p.m. and will have a Saturday matinee on Nov. 19 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available in advance at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/196295](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/196295) or can be purchased at the door. Pricing varies from \$10 for students, \$12 for seniors and \$16 for general admission.

Parking is available in front of the theatre on performance days



SAMSON UBA, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR  
**THOSE DAMN HOOLIGANS** - Melchior was bullied at a reform school after being kicked out of his school.



RICHARD RAZAVI | VALLEY STAR  
**PAIN IN DISAPPOINTMENT** - Not peased with Moritz (Moises Castro) failing to progress in school, his father (Freddie Donelli) scolds and slaps him in an argument.



SAMSON UBA, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR  
**TO BE OR NOT TO BE** - The ghosts of Wendla left and Moritz (Moises Castro) persuade Melchior (Nate Beals) not to commit suicide after finding out that Wendla died.